

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A boat bow access ladder comprising:
means attached to a trailer for holding said ladder;
said ladder having side rails and a plurality of steps, said side rails being inserted into
said holding means secured to a trailer for providing access to a bow of a boat; and
a first one of said side rails curves a predetermined distance toward a second of said
side rails and then proceeds parallel to said second of said side rails for insertion into said
holding means.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The boat bow access ladder as recited in Claim 1 wherein said
holding means comprises a pair of receptacles secured on opposite sides of said holding
means for receiving said side rails of said ladder.

4. (Currently Amended) The boat bow access ladder as recited in Claim 3
wherein said ~~holding means comprises~~ receptacles comprise cylindrical tubes.

5. (Original) The boat bow access ladder as recited in Claim 1 wherein each
of said steps comprise a slip resistant material adhered to an upper surface of said steps.

6. (Original) A boat bow access ladder comprising:

means attached to a trailer for receiving side rails of said ladder; and

said ladder having a plurality of rungs positioned between said side rails wherein an end portion of a first side rail curves toward a second side rail a predetermined distance until said first side rail and said second side rail are parallel and insertable into said receiving means.

7. (Original) The boat bow access ladder as recited in Claim 6 wherein said receiving means comprises receptacles secured on opposite sides of said receiving means.

8. (Currently Amended) The boat bow access ladder as recited in Claim [[6]] 7 wherein said receptacles comprise cylindrical tubes.

9. (Original) The boat bow access ladder as recited in Claim 6 wherein said receiving means comprises an inverted U-shaped base having a receptacle attached to each side of said base.

10. (Original) The boat bow access ladder as recited in Claim 6 wherein each of said rungs comprise a slip resistant material adhered to an upper surface of said rungs.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of providing access to a bow of a boat when on a trailer comprising the steps of:

attaching a base on a trailer at a location near the bow of said boat; and

inserting side rails of a ladder into said base, said ladder having a plurality of rungs positioned between said side rails; and

curving a first one of said side rails a predetermined distance toward a second one of said side rails until said first one and said second one of said side rails are parallel and insertable into said base.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein said method comprises the step of providing receptacles on the side of said base for receiving said side rails.